



Energy Technology Assistance Program

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Energy Technology Assistance Program Exceeds ARRA Goals

Oakland, CA September 18, 2012. The California Energy Commission's statewide municipal energy efficiency program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) successfully concluded on April 30, 2012. The Energy Technology Assistance Program (ETAP), implemented by Energy Solutions of Oakland, exceeded all of its energy savings goals within an ambitious 20-month program timeframe while achieving the U.S. Department of Energy's goals of stimulating the economy, creating and retaining jobs in California, and reducing California's greenhouse gas emissions. ETAP's objective was to accelerate the adoption of advanced, market-ready energy efficiency technologies in California. The program was open to all public agencies in California and focused on three energy efficiency technologies: bi-level lighting in parking lots and garages, wireless lighting controls, and wireless heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) controls.

By the end of the 20-month program, ETAP provided over 300 free energy audits, as well as project implementation assistance and \$3.4 million in rebates for approximately 115 energy efficiency projects statewide. ETAP's energy efficiency retrofit projects were estimated to save over 23,000,000 kilowatt hours of electricity and \$3.4 million in utility costs annually in 60 California cities, counties, and public colleges and universities.

"Investing in energy efficiency is critical for meeting California's clean energy goals and reducing the state's greenhouse gas emissions," said Energy Commission Chair Dr. Robert B. Weisenmiller. "The \$3.4 million distributed by ETAP is paid back in energy savings within a single year and these savings will continue to be seen by local California governments and schools for years to come."

ETAP is expected to continue generating energy and cost savings to California agencies not only through these projects, but also through expanded initiatives spurred by the success of these initial projects.

"Through the ETAP program," declared Bill Lekas, the Campus Energy Manager at San Diego State University, "We not only installed measures that will greatly improve our overall energy efficiency; but we also learned about the equipment that was not working properly on campus. In addition, based on our campus' great experience with the bi-level LED lighting installed under the ETAP program, I testified to the effectiveness of high Kelvin temperature lighting at a City of San Diego



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Planning Department meeting. This helped support the new outdoor lighting ordinance that the City is considering with the intention of improving the efficiency of lighting throughout the City.”

ETAP also completed ground-breaking monitoring and evaluation studies of a selection of the advanced technology projects implemented by the program. Key findings related to ETAP bi-level lighting projects showed that in certain applications, occupancy sensors delivered far greater savings than what is currently assumed by California investor-owned utilities. Occupancy sensors were shown to reduce full power operating hours by 62 percent in parking garages and 81 percent in stairwells, in sharp contrast to the corresponding 15 percent and 25 percent assumed by utility programs. These results were presented in August 2012 at the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy’s Summer Study on Energy Efficiency in Buildings.

Equally significant was ETAP’s economic stimulus and workforce development focus. All equipment for projects supported by ETAP was manufactured in America and most projects were also installed by local contractors. In addition, ETAP program helped to build a qualified workforce to deploy the targeted technologies and increase demand for cutting edge energy efficient technologies with ETAP installer trainings for electrical and HVAC contractors as well as educational seminars on technology best practices. Almost 300 participants benefited from ETAP-supported trainings and seminars.

The Bay Area Rapid Transit Agency’s (BART) Energy Manager, Frank Schultz, stated, “Energy Solutions provided a high level of service and expert technical support throughout the ETAP program. Due to the technical education provided by Energy Solutions, the many project stakeholders now understand and accept the new technology and we plan to adopt these advanced energy efficiency measures in future projects. This expansion in eligible project technologies would not have been possible without the ETAP program.”

ETAP was the most recent in a series of successful public agency programs designed and implemented by Energy Solutions, an energy and sustainability consulting firm headquartered in Oakland, California. Energy Solutions’ mission is to create large-scale environmental benefits by developing and implementing innovative, market-based approaches to increase sustainability through energy efficiency, water efficiency, and renewable energy initiatives for utility; local, state, and federal government; and private sector clients. For more information visit www.energy-solution.com.

The California Energy Commission is the state's primary energy policy and planning agency. Created by the Legislature in 1974 and located in Sacramento, six basic responsibilities guide the Energy Commission as it sets state energy policy: forecasting future energy needs; licensing thermal power



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plants 50 megawatts or larger; promoting energy efficiency and conservation by setting the state's appliance and building efficiency standards; supporting public interest energy research that advances energy science and technology through research, development, and demonstration programs; developing renewable energy resources and alternative renewable energy technologies for buildings, industry and transportation; planning for and directing state response to energy emergencies. For more information visit www.energy.ca.gov

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